

Message Text

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ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 DODE-00 /023 W

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FM AMCONSUL CURACAO

TO USS IWO JIMA IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2553

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

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FOR CAPTAIN POWELL FROM CG HANSON

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MARR, NA

SUBJECT: PORT VISIT

REF: CURACAO'S 0054 TO AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE 2/9/76

1. DELIGHTED WITH YOUR IMPENDING VISIT. ALTHOUGH GNA TELLS US CLEARANCE REQUEST HAS BEEN APPROVED, WE HAVE NO WORD YET FROM THE HAGUE. NEVERTHELESS, DUE FAST APPROACHING DATE, WE MUST ACT AND WILL DO SO ON PRESUMPTION THAT CLEARANCE WILL RPT WILL BE GRANTED.
2. RNL NAVY WILL SET UP SCHEDULE OF CALLS. YOU SHOULD PLAN ON CALLING AT CONGEN AND ON FLAG OFFICER NETHERLANDS ANTILLES ON MORNING OF ARRIVAL. UNIFORM WILL BE DAILY WHITE UNIFORM.
3. I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU WERE IN CURACAO AS CAPTAIN OF USS AUSTIN ON ITS PREVIOUS VISIT. YOU WILL RECALL THAT VISITING SHIPS CUSTOMARILY HOST A LARGE COCKTAIL PARTY ON BOARD FOR THE LOCAL COMMUNITY; SINCE US NAVY SHIPS CANNOT SERVE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES, WE HAVE IN THE PAST BEEN ABLE TO HOLD SUCH FUNCTIONS AT MY RESIDENCE. IF YOU WISH TO DO SO, I WILL MAKE ARRANGEMENTS FOR SUCH A PARTY INCLUDING SENDING OUT INVITATIONS, AND WILL PROVIDE ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES AND BARTENDERS IF YOU CAN PROVIDE THE FOOD AND FOOD SERVICE PERSONNEL. I SUGGEST THAT TUESDAY

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EVENING, FEBRUARY 17 WOULD BE THE BEST TIME FOR SUCH A RECEPTION

AND WOULD PROPOSE INVITING ABOUT 200 PEOPLE INCLUDING THE DUTCH NAVY, MEMBERS OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT, BUSINESS COMMUNITY AND SOME MEMBERS OF THE RESIDENT AMERICAN COMMUNITY, AS WELL AS UP TO 60 OFFICERS (AND ANY OF THEIR WIVES WHO MAY BE IN THE AREA) FROM THE SHIP.

4. IF YOU ARE PLANNING ANY ON BOARD LUNCHEONS OR DINNERS AS OTHER VISITING SHIPS HAVE DONE, I WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE KNOWING SO THAT WE MAY INVITE APPROPRIATE GUESTS. THE PRIME MINISTER HAS EXPRESSED TENTATIVE INTEREST IN ACCEPTING SUCH AN INVITATION SHOULD IT BE OFFERED.

5. YOUR REQUEST FOR FRUITS AND VEGETABLES WAS BID ON BY FOUR LOCAL SHIP CHANDLERS WITH LOWEST BID BEING DOLS. 705 RPT 705 FOR EVERYTHING EXCEPT AVOCADO WHICH NOW OUT OF SEASON. ADVISE IF ACCEPTABLE SOONEST. CAR AND BUS RENTAL REP WILL CONTACT SHIP UPON ARRIVAL.

I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR PROMPT REPLY TO THESE QUESTIONS SO THAT WE MAY PROCEED WITH ARRANGEMENTS. I LOOK FORWARD TO MEETING YOU.

HANSON

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